

adversely affected by imports from Mexico.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA-01068 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Hickory Hills Industries, Incorporated, Savannah Manufacturing Company, Savannah, Tennessee (NAFTA-01068) and Hickory Hills Industries, Incorporated, New York, New York (NAFTA-01068C) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after June 7, 1995 are eligible to apply for NAFTA-TAA under Section 250 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 12th day of September 1997.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA-01548 and TA-W-33,336]

Inland Paperboard and Packaging, Erie, PA; Notice of Negative Determination on Reconsideration

On July 31, 1997, the Department issued an Affirmative Determination Regarding Application for Reconsideration for the workers and former workers of the subject firm. The United Paperworkers International Union (UPIU) asserted that production of boxes in Mexico will increase when the Erie plant closes. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43354).

The Department initially denied NAFTA-TAA to workers of Inland Paperboard and Packaging, Inc. because criteria (3) and (4) of the group eligibility requirements in paragraph (a)(1) of Section 250 of the Trade Act, as amended, were not met. There were no company imports of corrugated shipping boxes from Mexico or Canada, nor was there a shift in production from the workers' firm to Mexico or Canada. The layoffs were attributable to company's decision to close the Erie plant and open a new production facility in Ohio.

The Department initially denied TAA to workers of Inland Paperboard and Packaging, Inc. because the "contributed importantly" group eligibility requirement of Section 222(3) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, was not met. The investigation revealed that the company decided to close the Erie plant and open a new production facility in Ohio. The parent company retained the Erie customer base.

The UPIU request for reconsideration asserts that Inland is exporting boxes to Mexico where they are loaded with Mexican products and returned to the United States. Inland's exports of corrugated shipping containers to Mexico or any other country is not a basis for a worker group certification. The Department is required examine import impact of articles like or directly competitive with the product produced at the worker's firm. Shipping containers filled with articles produced in foreign countries and shipped to the United States cannot be considered like or directly competitive with the articles produced at the Erie plant.

The UPIU also asserts that Inland Paperboard and Packaging, Inc. is increasing production at their Mexican corrugated box factory, and is building production capacity abroad. The Erie workers could be certified only if the company or customers of the subject firm were increasing imports of corrugated shipping containers. The company reported no imports of shipping containers.

Investigation on reconsideration shows that there was no corporate-wide decline in sales or production of corrugated shipping containers at Inland Paperboard and Packaging. New information provided by the company reveals that production at the Erie plant served a regional market. Customer accounts serviced by Erie are being handled by other Inland facilities in the region. Since there was no decline in sales, a customer survey was not conducted.

Conclusion

After reconsideration, I affirm the original notice of negative determination of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment assistance for workers and former workers of Inland Paperboard and Packaging, Erie, Pennsylvania, under Section 250 and Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 22nd day of September 1997.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

Levi Strauss and Company;
NAFTA-01807; Goodyear Cutting Facility and El Paso Field Headquarters; 1440 Goodyear El Paso, Texas;
NAFTA-01807W; Kastrin Street Plant 1000 Kastrin Street El Paso, Texas

In accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification of Eligibility to Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance of August 7, 1997, applicable to workers of Levi Strauss and Company, in El Paso, Texas. The notice will be published soon in the **Federal Register**.

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. The findings show that worker separations have occurred at the Kastrin street Plant and at the El Paso Field Headquarters, El Paso, Texas locations of Levi Strauss and Company. The Kastrin Street Plant is a sewing facility for Levi's manufacturing plants. The El Paso Filed Headquarters at 1440 Goodyear, in El Paso, Texas, is an administrative office servicing the western regional manufacturing facilities of Levi Strauss. The 1440 Goodyear location is also a cutting facility. The workers are engaged in employment related to the production of men's, women's and youth's denim jeans and jackets. Based on this new information, the Department is amending the certification to cover workers at the subject firm's Kastrin Street Plant and the El Paso Field Headquarters, El Paso, Texas.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Levi Strauss and Company who were adversely affected by imports from Mexico.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA-01807 is hereby issued as follows:

"All workers of Levi Strauss and Company, Goodyear Cutting Facility and El Paso Field Headquarters, El Paso, Texas (NAFTA-01807) and Kastrin Street Plant, El Paso, Texas (NAFTA-01807) who were engaged in employment related to cutting, sewing, or finishing or men's, women's and/or youth's denim jeans or jackets who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after July 9, 1996 are eligible to apply for